

TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION

CHAPTER 1.

Introduction

The American Travel Survey (ATS) on CD-ROM was developed by the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) to make ATS statistics accessible to a wide audience in a media compatible with personal computers. The ATS compiles national data on the nature and characteristics of long-distance personal travel.

The American Travel Survey contains information in several files on household trips and person trips reflecting a wide range of variables. The household trip data includes information about the traveling household's size, household and family income, household type, and number of vehicles. Information on person trips includes such variables as the traveler's race, origin, age, income category, and activity. Trip variables on both the household trip and person trip files include purpose of trip, mode of transportation, trip distance, number of household members on the trip, and a wide variety of related statistics. All of the data are presented in a manner that guarantees the confidentiality of the respondents.

The ATS on CD-ROM contains statistics from the 1995 survey in ASCII and SAS formats. The raw data may be accessed directly by users with their own data manipulation software or the SAS data sets may be accessed by licensed SAS users.

Data structures for each of these data sets are described in the documents contained in the "\docs" subdirectory of this CD-ROM.

Technical Assistance

For assistance using this CD-ROM or the databases, contact the Bureau of Transportation Statistics at (202) 366-9913 and refer to the 1995 American Travel Survey CD-ROM. Users with Internet access may contact us via e-mail at ats@bts.gov. For assistance with importing the data into a software package, please contact technical support for the specific vendor.

